

FILED IN THE  
U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

**May 25, 2023**

SEAN F. McAVOY, CLERK

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

REGINALD A. GEORGE, JR., ANDREA  
D. GEORGE; MORGAN GEORGE,  
REGINALD and ANDREA GEORGE, on  
Behalf of and for the benefit of A.G. and  
V.G., minor children,  
Plaintiffs,  
v.

DUSTIN BEST, EDWARD  
STRIEDINGER, STEVEN BROWN,  
WILLIAM BOB, DAVID BUTZ, DAVID  
LABOUNTY, MACKENZIE SHAFFER,  
KRISTOPHER BRAKEBILL, ALAN  
O'NEAL, HENRY HIX, THEODORE  
NELSON, and UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA,  
Defendants,  
THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF  
THE COLVILLE RESERVATION,  
Intervenor-Defendant.

No. 2:22-CV-00285-SAB

**ORDER DENYING  
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR  
SANCTIONS AND MOTION  
FOR RECONSIDERATION**

Before the Court are Plaintiffs' Motion for Sanctions and Protective Order,  
ECF No. 22 and Motion for Reconsideration, ECF No. 23. The motions were heard  
**ORDER DENYING PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR SANCTIONS AND  
MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION ~ 1**

1 without oral argument.<sup>1</sup> Plaintiffs are represented by Andrea George. Defendants  
2 are represented by Christopher J. Kerley, Timothy M. Durkin, and Derek T.  
3 Taylor.

4 On January 23, 2023, Magistrate Judge Ekstrom granted Craig Jacobson's  
5 Motion to Withdraw. ECF No. 21. Mr. Jacobson had filed a limited notice of  
6 appearance to represent the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation  
7 ("CTC") in its Motion to Intervene that was granted on January 12, 2023. In his  
8 Motion to Withdraw, which was filed on January 18, 2023, Mr. Jacobsen  
9 represented to the Court that Christopher Kerley had filed a Notice of Appearance  
10 on behalf of CTC. ECF No. 12-1. This was not true. Mr. Kerley did not file a  
11 Notice of Appearance on behalf of the CTC until January 30, 2023.

12 Plaintiffs intended to object to the withdrawal because they were concerned  
13 that CTC would be appearing without counsel. Before they could do so, Magistrate  
14 Judge Ekstrom entered an Order granting the Motion to Withdraw. Plaintiffs filed a  
15 Motion for Reconsideration of that Order.

16 Given that the Notice of Appearance was filed shortly after the Order was  
17 entered, and CTC is now properly represented, there is no need for the Court to  
18 revisit this issue. Moreover, the Court questions whether Plaintiffs' motions are  
19 properly before it. Ms. George did not file a Notice of Appearance on behalf of  
20 Plaintiffs until April 6, 2023, in response to the Court's Order to show cause. Thus,  
21 prior to that date, Mr. George was not represented by counsel. However, other than  
22 sign the Complaint, Mr. George did not sign any of the pleadings, as required by  
23 the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. It appears that Ms. George intended to  
24 represent all Plaintiffs pro se, which she is not allowed to do, presumably to benefit  
25 from the longer deadlines given to pro se parties in the Local Rules.

26 In any event, Plaintiffs have not shown how they were prejudiced by

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27 <sup>1</sup> Pursuant to Local Rule 7.1(i)(3)(iii), the Court finds that oral argument is not  
28 necessary.

1 allowing Mr. Jacobson to withdraw from his limited representation and as such,  
2 good cause does not exist to grant their motions.

3 Plaintiffs also seek sanctions for counsel's use of the full names of the minor  
4 children in various pleadings in the record. The Court notes that Plaintiffs initially  
5 filed their Complaint using the full names of the minor children. ECF No. 1. A  
6 redacted version of that Complaint was also filed in the record. ECF No. 2.  
7 Plaintiffs have not shown how they have been prejudiced by the use of the full  
8 names of their minor children in later pleadings to warrant sanctions, especially  
9 given that they themselves used the minors' full names in the initial Complaint.

10 Accordingly, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

11 1. Plaintiffs' Motion for Sanctions and Protective Order, ECF No. 22, is  
12 **DENIED.**

13 2. Plaintiffs' Motion for Reconsideration, ECF No. 23, is **DENIED.**

14 **IT IS SO ORDERED.** The Clerk of Court is directed to enter this Order  
15 and forward copies to counsel.

16 **DATED** this 25th day of May 2023.



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A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Stanley A. Bastian", is written over a horizontal line.

23 Stanley A. Bastian  
24 Chief United States District Judge  
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